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Lyndon Johnson, when he was President, once remarked confidentially that John Kennedy and Fidel Castro were trying to "get to" each other—and that Castro succeeded, relates **HOWARD K. SMITH** (ABC).

"In his tenure I had many long talks with President Johnson," Smith says. "In one of them he said, I'll tell you something [about Kennedy's murder] that will rock you. Then he said, Kennedy was trying to get Castro, but Castro got to him first."

"I was rocked all right," recounts Smith. "I begged for details. He refused, saying it will all come out one day.

"Mr. Johnson often dealt in blarney; and what he told me may have been that," Smith concedes. "But it deepens shadows that ought to be illuminated by a thorough, new investigation."

As further "evidence that belief in Cuban assassination plots was very alive in Washington then," Smith cites a rumor that Johnson's plane was once shunted to an obscure airport on a trip to Miami to avoid a "Cuban kamikaze . . . ordered to ram his plane."

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